

Message Text

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SUBJECT: LOYALISTS ESCALATE OPPOSITION TO NI EXECUTIVE AND
COUNCIL OF IRELAND

SUMMARY: LOYALISTS ARE ESCALATING THEIR OPPOSITION TO FORMATION
OF NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE AND TO COUNCIL OF IRELAND.
DEMOCRATIC UNIONISTS AND VANGUARD DISRUPTED NOVEMBER 29 ASSEMBLY
SESSION, DEMANDED INVITATION TO DECEMBER 6 TRIPARTITE TALKS
THEN REJECTED LATE INVITATION WHICH OFFERED LESS THAN FULL
PARTICIPATION, AND PHYSICALLY ATTACKED UNIONISTS IN ASSEMBLY
DECEMBER 5 UNPLEDGED UNIONISTS FORMER ULSTER UNIONIST ASSEMBLY
PARTY IN BID FOR RECOGNITION BY HMG AS PARTY DISTINCT FROM
OFFICIAL UNIONISTS AND THEREFORE AND INVITATION TO TRIPARTITE
TALKS. HMG REFUSED, SAYING THEY WERE STILL UNIONISTS. WITH
SUPPORT OF UNIONISTS WESTMINSTER PARTY, THEY PLAN TO SEEK
TO OVERTURN POWER-SHARING POLICIES IN ANOTHER MEETING OF
ULSTER UNIONIST COUNCIL, FORCE FAULKNER'S RESIGNATION
AS PARTY LEADER, AND THEN PURGE THE PARTY OF HIS FOLLOWERS.
ULSTER DEFENCE ASSOCIATION IS CALLING EITHER FOR TOTAL
INTEGRATION WITH THE UK OR ELSE AN INDEPENDENT ULSTER. MEETING
OF DELEGATES OF THREE LOYALIST POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORANGE
AND BLACK INSTITUTIONS EVENING DECEMBER 6 IS REPORTEDLY LIKELY
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TO RESULT IN FORMATION OF "UNITED UNIONIST COUNCIL" TO
COORDINATE OPPOSITION TO EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL OF IRELAND.
END SUMMARY.

1. LOYALISTS ESCALATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE FORMATION OF THE EXECUTIVE-DESIGNATE AND THE TRIPARTITE SUNNINGDALE TALKS IN A SERIES OF ACTIONS DURING PAST SEVERAL DAYS.

2. VANGUARD AND DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST ASSEMBLYMEN DISRUPTED NOVEMBER 29 SESSION OF ASSEMBLY BY SHOUTING "TRAITORS OUT" AT PLEDGED UNIONISTS. LATER IN WEEK LOYALIST LEADERS DEMANDED INVITATIONS TO TRIPARTITE TALKS, WHICH THEY INTERPRETED AS HAVING BEEN PROMISED TO THEM IN PARAGRAPH 112 OF LAST SPRING'S WHITE PAPER. THEY REFUSED TO MEET OUTGOING NORTHERN IRELAND SECRETARY WHITE LAW TO CONVEY TO HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF THEIR VIEWS ON MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED AT TRIPARTITE TALKS, BUT THEY MADE IT CLEAR THEY WANTED TO STATE THEIR VIEWS AND WATCH UNIONIST LEADER FAULKNER SO THAT THEY COULD REPORT HIS BEHAVIOUR TO LOYALIST POPULATION.

3. THE TEN "UNPLEDGED" UNIONIST ASSEMBLYMEN (WHO WERE NOMINATED BY OFFICIAL UNIONIST ASSOCIATIONS, BUT REFUSED TO PLEDGE TO SUPPORT PARTY MANIFESTO AND THEREFORE WERE REFUSED UNIONIST PARTY HEADQUARTERS ENDORSEMENT AND HELP AND EXCLUDED FROM MEETING AT WHICH BRIAN FAULKNER WAS ELECTED LEADER OF UNIONIST ASSEMBLY PARTY) OFFICIALLY FORMED THEMSELVES INTO THE ULSTER UNIONIST ASSEMBLY PARTY (UUAP). ONE OF THEIR LEADERS, JOHN LAIRD SAID THEY WERE HOPING THIS TRANSFORMATION, COUPLED WITH REPLACEMENT OF WHITE LAW BY PYM, WOULD PROVIDE HMG WITH FACE SAVING WAY TO INVITE THEM TO TALKS. HMG HAS TREATED UNPLEDGED AS NOTHING MORE THAN DISGRUNTLED FOLLOWERS OF UNIONIST LEADER FAULKNER, SO LONG AS THEY REMAIN MEMBERS OF UNIONIST PARTY. ON DECEMBER 4 PYM REAFFIRMED THE VIEW THAT THEY WERE STILL UNIONISTS NOT ENTITLED TO SEPARATE STATUS OR TO INVITATION TO TALKS.

4. EVENING DECEMBER 3 VANGUARD LEADER CRAIG, DUP LEADER PAISLEY AND UUAP LEADER HARRY WEST ADDRESSED ENTHUSIASTIC LOYALIST CROWD AT ULSTER HALL. PAISLEY CLAIMED THAT HMG FAILURE TO INVITE LOYALISTS TO CONFERENCES, IN VIOLATION OF WHITE PAPER PLEDGE, WAS FURTHER EXAMPLE OF BRITISH EFFORT TO TREAT UNCLASSIFIED

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ULSTERMEN AS SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS OF UK. HE URGED ALL LOYALISTS, BOTH IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WAYS, TO "SEND TO COVENTRY" THE "FAULKNERSHIP UNIONISTS" WHO HAD SOLD ULSTER OUT.

5. ON DECEMBER 4, SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVING AT STORMONT CASTLE TO TAKE UP NEW DUTIES AS SECRETARY OF STATE, PYM WAS PRESSED BY PAISLEY FOR DECISION ON INVITATION TO CONFERENCE. PYM GAVE NO ANSWER BUT PROMISED TO LET PAISLEY AND CRAIG KNOW.

6. AT DECEMBER 5 ASSEMBLY SESSION, DURING DEBATE ON LOYALIST MOTION TO CONVENE ASSEMBLY FOLLOWING DAY TO DISCUSS EXCLUSION OF LOYALISTS FROM TRIPARTITE TALKS, PAISLEY AND CRAIG RECEIVED LETTERS FROM PYM INVITING THEM TO ATTEND FIRST SESSION OF

TALKS, PRESENT THEIR VIEWS TO CONFERENCE, AND JOIN CONFERENCE FOR LUNCH: THEREAFTER, TRANSPORTATION WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR RETURN TO LONDON. APPARENTLY THINKING ON HIS FEET, PAISLEY REJECTED INVITATION ON SPOT BECAUSE IT OFFERED LESS THAN COMPLETE PARTICIPATION FOR LOYALISTS IN WORK OF CONFERENCE.

7. AFTER DEFEAT OF LOYALIST MOTION ON DEBATE, 27 (VANGUARD, DUP, UUAP) TO 37 (UNIONISTS, ALLIANCE, SDLP), SEVERAL VANGUARD AND DUP ASSEMBLYMEN PHYSICALLY ATTACKED UNIONIST ASSEMBLYMEN (PARTICULARLY HEAD-DESIGNATE FOR EDUCATION BASIL MCIVOR AND CHIEF WHIP-DESIGNATE HALL-THOMPSON) AND ATTEMPTED TO EJECT THEM FROM THE ASSEMBLY. SITTING WAS SUSPENDED AND RUC HAD TO RESTORE ORDER. AFTERWARDS, PAISLEY CLAIMED UNIONISTS HAD ATTACKED HIS BACKBENCHERS, BUT FEW OBSERVERS AGREED WITH THIS VERSION, AND VANGUARD ASSEMBLYMAN PROF. KENNEDY LINDSAY, ONE OF THE ATTACKERS, SAID IT WAS PREMEDITATED BY LOYALIST BACKBENCHERS AS SIGNAL THAT THERE WOULD BE NO EXECUTIVE AND NO COUNCIL OF IRELAND.

8. MEANWHILE, UUAP (WHICH HAS NOT JOINED OTHER LOYALISTS IN DISRUPTIVE AND VIOLENT ACTION) PLANNED TO PICKET TRIPARTITE TALKS SITE DECEMBER 6 AND LOBBY WESTMINSTER M.P.S AFTERWARDS. LEADER OF SIX-MEMBER ULSTER UNIONIST WESTMINSTER PARTY, CAPT ORR, WROTE LETTER TO SECRETARY PYM ENDORSING UUAP AS TRUE VOICE OF ULSTER UNIONISM (ALTHOUGH ADMITTING TWO OF SIX DISAGREE) AND REJECTING FAULKNER'S SELECTION OF LORD BROOKEBOROUGH AS OFFICIAL WESTMINSTER SPOKESMAN FOR PARTY. UUAP LEADERS SAY THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PLAN TO SEEK YET ANOTHER EMERGENCY MEETING IN JANUARY OF THE ULSTER UNIONIST COUNCIL TO REVERSE ITS NOVEMBER 20 DECISION FAVORING POWER-SHARING. SUCH A REVERSAL, FAULKNER HAS MADE CLEAR, WOULD LEAD TO HIS RESIGNATION AS PARTY LEADER, THOUGH NOT AS UNIONIST ASSEMBLY PARTY LEADER. UUAP SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THEY WOULD PURGE FAULKNERITES FROM PARTY.

9. ULSTER DEFENCE ASSOCIATION, LITTLE HEARD FROM IN RECENT MONTHS, ISSUED STATEMENT DECEMBER 5 CONDEMNING EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL OF IRELAND, AND DEMANDING EITHER TOTAL INTEGRATION WITHIN THE UK OR AN INDEPENDENT ULSTER.

10. SOME 500 DELEGATES OF VANGUARD, DUP, UUAP, ORANGE ORDER, ROYAL BLACK PRECEPTORY, AND INDEPENDENT ORANGE INSTITUTION WILL MEET AT ULSTER HALL EVENING DECEMBER 6 TO FURTHER COORDINATE AND ORGANIZE OPPOSITION TO EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL OF IRELAND. ACCORDING TO ONE OF MEETING'S ORGANIZERS, LIKELY OUTCOME WILL BE FORMATION OF "UNITED UNIONIST COUNCIL." PENBERTHY

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